

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for communicating data in a clustered computing system, the method comprising:
 - receiving an initial indication that an event was generated at a first node of the clustered computing system;
 - receiving one or more subsequent indications that the event was generated at the first node of the clustered computing system;
 - determining that information from the initial indication is identical to information from said one or more subsequent indications;
 - in response to determining that the information from the initial indication is identical to the information from said one or more subsequent indications, coalescing the information from the initial indication with the information from said one or more subsequent indications into a coalesced event notification; and
 - propagating the coalesced event notification to a receiving node of the clustered computing system.
- 2-4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said clustered computing system comprises a database management system.
6. (Previously Presented) The computing environment of Claim 1, wherein said clustered computing system comprises a shared-disk database system.
7. (Previously Presented) The computing environment of Claim 1, wherein said clustered computing system comprises a shared-cache parallel database management system.

8. (Previously Presented) The computing environment of Claim 1, wherein said clustered computing system comprises a shared-nothing database management system.
9. (Previously Presented) The computing environment of Claim 1, wherein said clustered computing system comprises a distributed database management system.

10-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 1.

23-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 5.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 6.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 7.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 8.
30. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 9.

31-42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) A method for communicating data in a clustered computing system, the method comprising:
 - receiving an indication that an event was generated at a first node of the clustered computing system;
 - receiving one or more subsequent indications that the event was generated at the first node of the clustered computing system;
 - determining that information from said indication is identical to information from said one or more subsequent indications;
 - in response to determining that the information from the initial indication is identical to the information from said one or more subsequent indications, coalescing the information from the initial indication with the information from said one or more subsequent indications into a coalesced event notification;
 - appending onto an existing message the coalesced event notification that describes a single instance of said event, wherein the message was destined to be propagated to a receiving node that is not a node sending the message; and
 - propagating the coalesced event notification to the receiving node.

44. (Cancelled)
45. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 43.
- 46-58. (Cancelled)
59. (Previously Presented) A computer apparatus comprising:
 - a processor; and
 - a memory coupled to the processor, the memory containing one or more sequences of instructions for communicating data in a clustered computing environment, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the processor causes the processor to perform the method of Claim 1.
60. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of propagating comprises:
 - appending, onto an existing message, the coalesced event notification that includes information that describes a single instance of said event;
 - wherein the message is destined to be propagated to the receiving node, wherein the receiving node is not a node sending the message.
61. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 60, where the step of appending includes piggybacking the coalesced event notification on a message that is otherwise unrelated to the event.
62. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the method further comprises:

setting an identifier indicating that the information describing an identical event is to be appended onto a message and propagated to a particular node.

63. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the message has a fixed size, and the method further comprises:
appending additional information that describes additional events onto existing message traffic until free space in the fixed-size message is filled.
64. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the method further comprises:
placing the information describing an identical event in a queue.
65. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 64, wherein the queue includes at least a priority queuing mechanism in order to determine a priority for events such that high priority events would supercede a low priority event in the queue.
66. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein an in-memory hash index is used to determine if an event exists in a shared-memory event buffer.
67. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 66, wherein the shared-memory event buffer has a fixed size.
68. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the method further comprises:
partitioning a shared-memory event buffer;
generating an event buffer entry of the shared memory event buffer;
placing an event identifier into the event buffer entry; and
inserting the information describing an identical event into the event buffer entry.
69. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 68, the method further comprising:
if between a fastest head pointer and a tail pointer there does not exist a

buffer entry in the shared memory event buffer for an identical event, generating a new event buffer entry, and

wherein the inserting further comprises inserting the information describing said identical event into the new event buffer entry.

70. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 68, wherein the inserting comprises: if between a fastest head pointer and a tail pointer there exists a buffer entry in the shared memory event buffer for the identical event, updating the buffer entry so that the buffer entry represents the subsequent occurrence.
71. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 68, further comprising using a round robin method and the shared memory event buffer to determine to which existing message to append the information describing an identical event.
72. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 60, wherein the method further comprises the step of: maintaining information that describes a plurality of events.
73. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 72, wherein the method further comprises the step of : maintaining information that describes the plurality of events in a shared-memory event buffer.
74. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 61.
75. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors,

- causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 63.
76. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 65.
77. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 67.
78. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 69.
79. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 70.
80. (New) A computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the method recited in Claim 71.